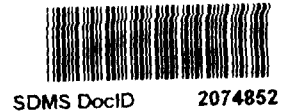




REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON
WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
6900 GEORGIA AVENUE, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON, DC 20307-5001



Garrison Environmental Office

JAN 29 2007

Harry R. Steinmetz (3HS62)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2029

Dear Mr. Steinmetz:

Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC) is submitting this letter in response to a letter from Ms. Laura B. Janson of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region III (EPA). The letter, dated November 3, 2006, seeks information regarding the Safety Light Corporation Site in Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania. WRAMC requested that the deadline for response to the letter be extended until January 31, 2007. On December 11, 2006, Humane Zia of EPA granted the extension request.

WRAMC found no documents indicating transactions between WRAMC and Safety Light or the other firms cited in the November 3 letter. The 1963 journal entry that EPA enclosed with the letter shows that the material was sold to "Glovall Corp" and shipped to WRAMC. WRAMC had no direct dealings with the companies in question. The item WRAMC received from Glovall was subsequently disposed of in South Carolina, as explained further in our responses to the specific questions asked in your letter.

In preparing our response, WRAMC took the following actions:

1. Searched computerized records of facilities that received hazardous waste from WRAMC between 1999 and the present. WRAMC does not maintain database records prior to that date. We note, however, that the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Services (DRMS) handles all contracting for shipping and disposal of hazardous waste generated at WRAMC (except for explosive wastes). The computer database we searched may duplicate information that DRMS would have. Point of Contact (POC): Robin Gibson, Environmental Protection Specialist, Garrison Environmental Office, (202) 782-4801;

2. Searched radioactive waste disposal records dating back to 1979, computerized receipt records going back five to six years, and paper files of source calibration certifications as far back as the 1960s. POC: David Burton, Chief, License Support Branch, Preventive Medicine Service Health Physics Office, (202) 356-0062.

3. Searched available supply and disposal records maintained by the Directorate of Public Works, which was responsible for hazardous waste disposal prior to 1998. POCs: Henry Mitchell, Real Property Accounting Officer, Master Planning Branch, 202-782-6499; John Simpkins, General Supervisor, Supply and Storage Shop, (301) 295-7614.

4. Contacted the DRMS to determine if they have records of disposal facilities used in years prior to 1999. POC: Bruce Noble, DRMS, Battle Creek, MI, (269) 961-7412. Mr. Noble performed a search of DRMS records for the information requested by the EPA. Mr. Noble's search revealed no DRMS records concerning Safety Light Corporation or its predecessors.

WRAMC's responses to the questions in EPA's November 3 letter are as follows.

1. Describe in detail the business relationship between the WRAMC and Safety Light.

WRAMC found only one record of a transaction involving the firms referenced in EPA's letter. A 20 mCi Sr-90 source listed as a Gas Chromatograph Cell was added to the WRAMC inventory and leak tested in July 1969. This appears to be the same item as that shown on the ledger attached to the EPA letter.

The Health Physics Control No. assigned was 90-Sr-001 which would suggest that this was the first Sr-90 source at WRAMC. The assay date was listed as April 1964 but the manufacturer and model number were not listed. The source was leak tested with negative results every six months until July 1981 when it was taken out of service and moved to storage at the Health Physics facility. In March 1989 this source along with a number of others were sent for disposal to the DOD Consolidation Facility run by Chem-Nuclear Systems, Inc. in Snelling, S.C. (just outside the gates of the Barnwell, low-level burial facility).

2. Did WRAMC ever transport and/or broker hazardous substances and/or radioactive waste or other wastes to the Site (including, but not limited to, spent or expired "EXIT" signs or other devices, and the like), for disposal or reclamation?

None of the records that WRAMC searched show that WRAMC transported or brokered hazardous substances and/or radioactive waste or other wastes to the Site.

3. Not applicable.

4. Did WRAMC ever generate radioactive wastes that were disposed of or reclaimed by U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal or Isolite at the Site?

The records that WRAMC searched show no WRAMC-generated radioactive wastes were sent to the Site. All radioactive wastes generated by WRAMC have been disposed of at facilities in South Carolina.

5. Not applicable.

6. If you have reason to believe there may be persons able to provide more detailed or complete responses to any question contained herein, or who may be able to provide additional responsive documents, provide the names, titles, areas of responsibility, current addresses, and telephone numbers of such persons as well as additional information or documents they may have.

WRAMC personnel available to respond to this inquiry are not aware of any persons who may be able to provide more detailed or complete responses.

7. For each and every questions contained herein, if information or documents responsive to this Information Request are not in your possession, custody, or control, provide the names, titles, areas of responsibility, current addresses, and telephone numbers of the persons from whom such information or documents may be obtained.

The Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service (DRMS), which handles all contracting for shipping and disposal of non-radioactive hazardous waste generated at WRAMC (except for explosive wastes), was questioned about additional records beyond those currently available at WRAMC. We contacted DRMS personnel in Battle Creek, Michigan, who directed us to Mr. Bruce Noble. Mr. Noble conducted a search of DRMS records and did not find records pertaining to Safety Light Corporation or its predecessor corporations.

The address for DRMS Headquarters is Hart Dole Inouye Federal Center, 74 Washington Ave. N, Battle Creek, MI. 49017-3092. Mr. Noble's phone number is (269) 961-7412.

8. If you have any other information about other party(ies) who may have information that may assist the Agency in its investigation of the Site, or who may be responsible for the generation of, transportation to, or release of contamination at the Site, please provide such information. The information you provide in response to this request should include the party's name, address, type of business, and the reasons why you believe the party may have contributed to the contamination at the Site or may have information regarding the Site.

See response to question 7.


9. If any of the documents solicited in this information request are no longer available, please indicate the reason why they are no longer available.

WRAMC personnel available for this search are not aware of any destroyed or missing documents pertaining to Safety Light, U.S. Radium, Lime Ridge Industries, USR Industries, USR Metals, Metreal or Isolite. Retention policies vary among WRAMC's various sub-organizations and depend on the nature of the document. Though only required to retain hazardous waste manifests for three years, WRAMC typically retains them for seven years.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact, Mr. Chuck Flippo at (202) 782-3880 through February 2, 2007. After that date, contact Mr. Joe Fromal at (202) 782-0090.

Based on my inquiry of the personnel responsible for gathering the information request by the EPA, Region III, CERCLA 104(e) Information Request dated 18 April 2006, the information submitted is to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete.

Sincerely,


Peter M. Garibaldi
Colonel, US Army
Garrison Commander

ROUTE 113P
FZ

41
52

FedEx US Airbill
Express

FedEx Tracking Number 8585 6219 4999

1 From This portion can be removed for Recipient's records

Date 1/27/07 FedEx Tracking Number 858562194999

Sender's Name BLDG 11 RM 2-08 Phone 202 782-0090

Company JALTEER REED ARMY MED CENTER

Address 100 GEORGIA AVE NW

City WASHINGTON State DC ZIP 20307-0004

2 Your Internal Billing Reference

3 To

Recipient's Name [Signature]

Company [Signature]

Recipient's Address

We cannot deliver to PO boxes or PO ZIP codes

Address

To request a package be held at a specific FedEx location, print FedEx address here

City State ZIP



8585 6219 4999



emp# 394068 29JAN07

TRK# 8585 6219 4999

FORM 0215

STANDARD OVERNIGHT

Deliver By:
30 JAN 07
A1

4a Express Packs

☐ FedEx Priority Overnight
Next business morning. First shipments will be delivered unless SATURDAY Delivery.

☐ FedEx 2Day
Second business day. Third business day shipments will be delivered unless SATURDAY Delivery is a FedEx Envelope.

4b Express Freight Service

☐ FedEx 1Day Freight
Next business day. Friday shipments will be delivered unless SATURDAY Delivery is a FedEx Envelope.

* Call for Confirmation

5 Packaging

☒ FedEx Envelope*

☐ Includes FedEx Small Pak, FedEx Large Pak, and FedEx Sturdy Pak.

☐ FedEx Box

☐ FedEx Tube

☐ Other

* Declared value limit \$500.

6 Special Handling

☐ SATURDAY Delivery
Not available for FedEx Standard Overnight, FedEx First Overnight, FedEx Express Saver, or FedEx 3Day Freight.

☐ HOLD Weekday at FedEx Location
Not available for FedEx First Overnight.

☐ HOLD Saturday at FedEx Location
Available ONLY for FedEx Priority Overnight and FedEx 2Day to select locations.

Does this shipment contain dangerous goods?

☒ No ☐ Yes
As per attached Shipper's Declaration

☐ Yes
Shipper's Declaration not required

☐ Dry Ice
Dry Ice, 9 UN 1845

☐ Cargo Aircraft Only

7 Payment Bill to:

☒ Sender
Acct. No. in Section 1 will be billed.

Enter FedEx Acct. No. or Credit Card No. below.

☐ Recipient

☐ Third Party

☐ Credit Card

☐ Cash/Check



Total Packages

Total Weight

Total Charges

* Our liability is limited to \$100 unless you declare a higher value. See the current FedEx Service Guide for details.

8 NEW Residential Delivery Signature Options

If you require a signature, check Direct or Indirect.

☐ No Signature Required
Package may be left without obtaining a signature for delivery.

☐ Direct Signature
Anyone at recipient's address may sign for delivery. Fee applies.

☐ Indirect Signature
If no one is available at recipient's address, anyone at a neighboring address may sign for delivery. Fee applies.

519

Rev. Date 11/05/Part #158279/©1994 2005 FedEx® PRINTED IN U.S.A. +RS